Nature Quest: BUGS

Go on a Nature Quest to see which bugs you can find around your neighborhood!

Kit contains:

- Bug dial template
- Brass fastener

You will need: scissors and a sharp pencil, thumbtack, or nail for poking holes.

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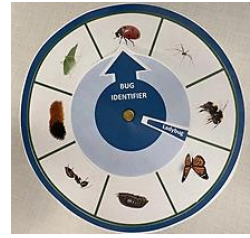
INSTRUCTIONS



(1) Assemble your Bug Identifier using the directions on the template.

(2) Can you find all eight bugs outside around your neighborhood? When you see them, act like a scientist and **observe** (watch closely). How do they move? What are they doing? Are there several of the same type of bug together? What else do you notice?

WHY LOOK AT BUGS?

Bugs are an important part of our world and vital to any **ecosystem**. There are 960,000 different species of insects and arachnids (two main types of bugs) that have been discovered, and there are probably many more! Most of the bugs on your bug identifier are **insects**, which means they have 6 legs and 3 body sections.

Ant: Ants are super-strong! They routinely lift 50 times their body weight, and have been known to lift up to 5,000 times their body weight!

Woodlice (Roly Poly): These bugs aren't insects. They're crustaceans like shrimp or lobsters. They roll into a ball to protect themselves.

Monarch Butterfly: Monarch butterflies migrate 3,000 miles! They are important pollinators for all the places they live.

Bumblebees: Bumblebees are excellent pollinators. They can be found all over the world.

Daddy Long-Legs: Daddy Long-legs look like spiders, but they're a different species of arachnid. Arachnids have 8 legs and 2 body sections.

Ladybug: Ladybugs can help farmers! They eat aphids, which are tiny bugs that can really harm lants/crops.

Katydid: Katydids are great at camoflage! Their wings look just like leaves so they can blend in on plants and stay safe.

Woolly Bear Caterpillar: Caterpillars are baby butterflies or moths. This caterpillar will eventually make a cocoon and become an Isabella Tiger Moth.

Some information taken from:
https://www.pctonline.com/article/ants-body-weight-study/
https://www.reconnectwithnature.org/news-events/the-buzz/roly-poly-pill-bugs
https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/monarch-butterfly-migration
https://www.weather.gov/arx/woollybear

BOOKS TO LEARN MORE

100 Bugs!: A Counting Book by Kate Narita
Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! by Bob Barner
I Love Bugs! by Emma Dodd
On Beyond Bugs!: All About Insects by Tish Rabe
Bugs From Head to Tail by Stacey Roderick
Insect Superpowers by Kate Messner
The Usborne Big Book of Big Bugs by Emily Bone
The Ultimate Bug-Opedia by Darlyne Murawski